In the Claims:

1   1.   (Previously Presented)   A communications method in an interactive
2   session comprising:
3   arranging scalable media data into data structures formatted in
4   accordance with a content independent indexable data structure format
5   including one or more fields indicating a level of scalability;
6   organizing the arranged scalable media data in a bit stream in which a
7.   plurality of levels of scalability of the scalable media data coexist;
8   organizing the scalable media data into a plurality of subparts;
9   receiving a plurality of data requests from a plurality of participants
10   requesting different ones of the subparts during user interaction with the media
11   data, wherein at least two of the participants support different levels of
12   scalability for the media data;
13   retrieving from the bit stream using the format of the content independent
14   indexable data structures respective ones of the requested subparts at levels of
15   scalability corresponding to receiving attributes of the respective participants;
16   and
17   communicating the subparts at the retrieved levels of scalability to
18   respective ones of the participants.

1   2.   (Original)   The method of claim 1 further comprising accessing
2   random subparts corresponding to the data requests, and wherein the scaling
3   comprising scaling the accessed subparts.

1   3.   (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving attributes
2   relate to unique parameters of the participants with respect to at least one
3   communications bandwidth, display resolution, and processing capacity.

1   4.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1 further comprising
2   performing transcoding operations without decoding the media data.

1   5.   (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the initial one of the
2 subparts corresponds to an initial visual image to be depicted by the
3 participants, and the forwarding of the initial one of the subparts comprises
4 forwarding a plurality of data streams of different amounts of data
5 corresponding to the receiving attributes of the respective participants.

1   6.   (Original) The method of claim 5 further comprising depicting the
2 initial visual image at a plurality of different resolutions using the participants
3 and responsive to the data streams comprising different amounts of data.

1   7.   (Original) The method of claim 4 further comprising depicting
2 visual images of the media data using the participants, wherein the initial one of
3 the subparts comprises an initial visual image, and the data requests correspond
4 to interactive commands generated by the participants requesting additional
5 views of the initial visual image.

1   8.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 performing transcoding operations without knowledge of the data content.

1   9.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising
2 performing transcoding operations without decrypting the media data.

Claims 10-34 (cancelled).

1   35.   (New) A communications session organizer comprising:
2   an interface configured to communicatively couple with a plurality of
3 participants during an interactive media communications session; and
4   processing circuitry coupled with the interface and configured to access a
5 plurality of data requests from the participants during the communications
6 session, to identify a plurality of subparts of scalable media data responsive to
7 the requests, to scale the subparts of the media data according to respective
8 receiving attributes of the participants, and to output the scaled media data to
9 respective ones of the participants.

1   36.   (New)   The organizer of claim 35 further comprising storage
2   circuitry configured to store the scalable media data.

1   37.   (New) The organizer of claim 35 wherein the processing circuitry
2   is further configured to communicate an initial one of the subparts of scalable
3   media data corresponding to an initial visual image to be depicted by the
4   participants, and the communicated initial one of the subparts comprises a
5   plurality of data streams of different amounts of data corresponding to the
6   receiving attributes of the respective participants.

1   38.   (New) The organizer of claim 35 wherein the processing circuitry
2   is further configured to communicate an initial one of the subparts of scalable
3   media data corresponding to an initial visual image to be depicted by the
4   participants, and wherein the data requests correspond to interactive commands
5   generated by the participants requesting additional visual images related to the
6   initial visual image.

1   39.   (New) The organizer of claim 35 wherein the processing circuitry
2   is configured to access an index using the data requests to identify the subparts.

1   40.   (New) The organizer of claim 35 wherein the processing circuitry
2   is configured to receive the receiving attributes from the participants, and further
3   comprising storage circuitry configured to store the receiving attributes.

1   41.   (New) The organizer of claim 35 wherein the processing circuitry
2   is configured to cause the interface to communicate first content of the scalable
3   media data regarding a first portion of a subject at an initial moment in time, and
4   wherein the data requests request second content of the scalable media data
5   regarding a second portion of the subject different than the first portion of the
6   subject at a subsequent moment in time after the initial moment in time.

1   42.   (New) The organizer of claim 41 wherein the first content is void
2   of data regarding the second portion of the subject.

43.   (New) The organizer of claim 41 wherein the second portion is a portion of the subject not included in the first portion of the subject.

44.   (New) The organizer of claim 41 wherein the scalable media data comprises image data of an image of the subject, and the first portion comprises a first view of the subject and the second content comprises a second view of the subject different than the first view, and wherein a portion of the subject contained in the second view is not included in the first view.

45.   (New) The organizer of claim 35 wherein the processing circuitry is configured to arrange the scalable media data into the subparts in accordance with a content independent index and to use the content independent index to scale the subparts of the media data.

46.   (New) An article of manufacture comprising:

processor-usable media comprising programming configured to cause processing circuitry of an organizer to:

access scalable media data comprising a plurality of subparts;

access a plurality of data requests from a plurality of participants coupled with the organizer and configured to identify different ones of the subparts;

access a plurality of receiving attributes for respective ones of the participants;

scale the identified subparts according to respective ones of the receiving attributes; and

communicate the scaled subparts to the participants.

47.   (New) The article of claim 46 wherein the programming is configured to cause processing circuitry to communicate an initial one of the subparts corresponding to an initial visual image to be depicted by the participants, and the data requests are received in the organizer responsive to the communication of the initial subpart.

1   48.   (New)   The article of claim 47 wherein the programming is

2   configured to cause processing circuitry to scale the initial subpart using the

3   receiving attributes, and wherein the communication of the initial subpart

4   comprises communicating a plurality of data streams of different amounts of

5   data to respective ones of the participants.

1   49.   (New)   The article of claim 46 wherein the programming is

2   configured to cause processing circuitry to:

3   access an index of the scalable media data responsive to the data

4   requests; and

5   identifying the respective ones of the different subparts using the index.

1   50.   (New)   The article of claim 46 wherein the scalable media data

2   comprises scalable media data configured to be scaled according to at least one

3   scalability attribute, and wherein the programming is configured to cause

4   processing circuitry to match the at least one scalability attribute and the

5   respective ones of the receiving attributes to scale the identified subparts.